

Agenda item: PL 3.4

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Note by the Secretary-General

CONTRIBUTION FROM CAMEROON – STRENGTHENING THE ITU REGIONAL PRESENCE

I have the honour to transmit to the Member States of the Council a contribution received from **Cameroon**.

Dr Hamadoun I. TOURÉ
Secretary-General

CONTRIBUTION FROM CAMEROON

STRENGTHENING THE ITU REGIONAL PRESENCE

1 Background

With a view to ensuring the harmonious and equitable development of all parts of the world in regard to telecommunications and ICTs, the Plenipotentiary Conference (Guadalajara, 2010) adopted **Resolution 25** to strengthen the regional presence by creating regional offices.

The field offices provide support to all ITU activities and contribute to implementing its strategic policy objectives through direct contacts and follow-up with national authorities, regional telecommunication organizations and other sector players. The offices also allow the Union to adapt its activities to the specific requirements of the countries they cover.

The close relationship created by the existence of the Yaoundé area office has made it possible to carry out projects in the subregion and is conducive to the real-time availability of information on the activities of the three Sectors of the Union.

It is nevertheless important to note that:

- the field offices are in fact an extension of the Union as a whole, and not solely of ITU-D;
- **paragraph 4 iii) of Resolution 25** instructs the Secretary-General to submit to each session of the Council a report containing, for each specific regional office and each area office, information on "*evolution and development of activities, including, among others, the extension of activities to the three Sectors, implementation of projects and regional initiatives, organization of seminars and workshops, participation in events, organization of regional preparatory meetings and attraction of new Sector Members, in coordination with regional intergovernmental organizations;*" however, the 2013 report on the regional presence does not present enough information on this matter;
- the staffing levels of the regional offices and the area offices are inadequate for the missions and objectives assigned to them.

2 Proposal

The Administration of Cameroon proposes to maintain and strengthen the regional presence so that the regional offices and area offices take into account certain activities of the three Sectors of the Union.
